

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Prior to this amendment, claims 1-13 and 15-28 were pending. In this amendment, claims 2-5, 7, 10-11, 22, and 26-28 are amended. In order to expedite issuance of allowed subject matter, claims 1, 9, and 19-21 are canceled without prejudice and without disclaimer. Claims 29-33 are added. Thus, after entry of this amendment, claims 2-8, 10-13, 15-18, and 22-33 will be pending.

Claims Allowed

Applicants earnestly thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 12-13, 15-18, and 23-25 are allowed. Note that newly added claims 29-30 depend from claim 12 and derive patentability at least therefrom.

Claims Rewritten in Independent Form and Allowable

Applicants also thank the Examiner for indicating the allowability of claims 26-28, if properly rewritten in independent form. Each one of the claims 26-28 has been rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of its base claim and any intervening claims, and is thus believed to be allowable.

Claims 2-4 depend from claim 26, claims 10-11 and 31-33 depend from claim 28; and claim 22 depends from claim 27, and thus are also believed to be allowable, for at least the reasons stated above with regard to claims 26-28, respectively.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), Oh

Claims 5-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Oh et al. (U.S. Pat. 6,189,051), hereafter, "Oh".

Claim 5 has been amended to include "*logic for sending a request command for a growth program to an optimized hard disk drive,*" which is also an element of allowed claim 28. Based at least upon this amendment to claim 5, it is respectfully asserted that this claim, as well as claims depending therefrom, are also allowable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,

/David B. Raczkowski/

David B. Raczkowski
Reg. No. 52,145

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 415-576-0200
Fax: 415-576-0300
Attachments
DBR:lrj
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